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UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 TEL AVIV 002195

SIPDIS

NEA FOR BURNS/SATTERFIELD
NEA/SA/EX FOR AUSTIN-FERGUSON; DEPT FOR DS/IP/ITA; DEPT FOR
DS/IP/NEA; DRL FOR A/S CRANER
NSC FOR ABRAMS/DANIN
USAID FOR DCHA, DCHA/FFP
CENTCOM FOR GENERAL ABIZAID

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [KWBG](#) [PTER](#) [ASEC](#) [PHUM](#) [CASC](#) [KPAL](#)

SUBJECT: THE SITUATION ON THE GROUND: #70; APRIL 14, 1700
LOCAL; FATAH SUPPORTERS DEMONSTRATE IN SOLIDARITY WITH WEST
BANK FATAH LEADER, CLASH WITH IDF FORCES

THIS IS A JOINT MESSAGE FROM CONGEN JERUSALEM AND EMBASSY TEL
AVIV

1. (SBU) Summary. During the reporting period one
Palestinian died of shrapnel wounds during a Fatah
demonstration. IDF teams demolished the home of a suicide
bomber in Nablus, and bulldozed lands near Rafa in northern
Gaza. A sit-in strike protesting tighter security measures
continued for a second day at Erez industrial zone, and two
thousand Fatah supporters demonstrated in Gaza amid IDF and
Palestinian fire. End Summary.

West Bank

2. (SBU) ATTACKS

-- Deaths: Nil.

-- Injuries: Israeli soldiers shot and wounded a Palestinian
during clashes in Baqa Sharqiya on April 13.

-- Injuries: Palestinians threw stones at an Israeli bus
near al-Aroub on April 13, injuring the Israeli bus driver.

-- Shootings: Shots were fired at IDF patrols in Jenin and
Tulkarm on April 13. No injuries were reported.

-- Explosives: An explosive device detonated near an IDF
jeep in Nablus on April 13. No injuries were reported.

3. (SBU) DEMOLITIONS/ARRESTS:

-- Israeli troops arrested three Palestinians in Nablus and
Bethlehem on April 13.

-- The IDF demolished the home of a Palestinian suicide
bomber in Nablus on April 13.

Gaza Strip

4. (SBU) ATTACKS:

-- Deaths: One Palestinian was killed by shrapnel from a
homemade bomb during a Fatah demonstration in Gaza city on
April 14 according to UNWRA.

-- Injuries: Nil.

-- Mortars/Rockets/Shootings: Four mortars were fired at
Neve Dekalim settlement, and one during a clash near Karni on
Netzarim road. One anti-tank rocket was fired at IDF
vehicles opposite block J. There was extensive shooting and
several handmade explosive devices thrown at the Fatah
demonstration in Gaza.

5. (SBU) BORDER CROSSINGS/CHECKPOINTS

-- Route Four (Salahadeen Road), the main north-south traffic
artery, was open for Palestinians.

-- Erez Crossing was closed to Palestinian laborers but open
to merchants and internationals. Approximately 100 merchants
crossed into Israel. Workers demonstrated again outside the
Erez industrial zone in protest of tightened border crossing
procedures. The IDF announced at 0800 that the zone would
remain closed, but according to UNWRA 360 laborers have
entered the industrial zone.

-- Sufa Crossing was open for materials but not laborers
today.

-- Karni Terminal, the only Gaza Strip-GOI crossing for the

import and export of goods, allowed Palestinian containerized goods both in and out of Gaza, but UNWRA reports that they are moving extremely slowly due to 100% checks.

-- Rafah Terminal was open for Palestinians.

-- The Al-Mowassi checkpoints were closed at Tel al-Sultan but open at Toufah.

16. (SBU) INCURSIONS/DEMOLITIONS:

-- According to Voice of Palestine, Israeli forces advanced into Rafah and bulldozed lands amid shooting from both sides and IDF shelling of houses.

17. (SBU) POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS:

-- Over 2,000 Fatah supporters demonstrated in Gaza city near the UNWRA offices in support of Marwan Barghuthi. UNWRA reported numerous rounds of fire and Molotov cocktails going off, and one Palestinian was killed by shrapnel to the head.

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LeBaron